

**Grade 6 -Art Program- Term 3 -2011**  
**Painting with mediums .eg. bubble and impasto etc**  
**TOTORO**

## **Lanterns for Harvest Festival**

### **Chinese Lanterns-Moon Festival-**

*To fit in with our work about space, you might investigate how the moon and stars are represented in literature. Etseko is using the Japanese story of the Rabbit and the Moon in her program, but there are many others.*

The Mid-Autumn Festival, also known as the Moon Festival or **Zhongqiu Festival** is a popular harvest festival celebrated by **Chinese**, Korean, and **Vietnamese people**, dating back over 3,000 years to **moon worship** in **China's Shang Dynasty**. It was first called *Zhongqiu Jie* (literally "Mid-Autumn Festival") in the **Zhou Dynasty**.<sup>[1]</sup> In **Malaysia, Singapore**, and **the Philippines**, it is also sometimes referred to as the **Lantern Festival** or **Mooncake Festival**.

The Mid-Autumn Festival is held on the 15th day of the eighth month in the **Chinese calendar**, which is in September or early October in the **Gregorian calendar**. It is a date that parallels the **autumnal equinox** of the **solar calendar**, when the moon is at its fullest and roundest. The traditional food of this festival is the **mooncake**, of which there are many different varieties

The Mid-Autumn Festival is one of the few most important holidays in the Chinese calendar, the others being **Chinese New Year** and **Winter Solstice**, and is a legal holiday in several countries. Farmers celebrate the end of the fall harvesting season on this date. Traditionally on this day, Chinese family members and friends will gather to admire the bright mid-autumn **harvest moon**, and eat moon cakes and **pomelos** under the moon together. Accompanying the celebration, there are additional cultural or regional customs, such as:

- Carrying brightly lit **lanterns**, lighting lanterns on towers, floating **sky lanterns**
- Burning **incense** in reverence to deities including [Chang'e](#)
- Erect the Mid-Autumn Festival.(树中秋，竖中秋，in China,树 and 竖 are homophones) It is not about planting trees but hanging lanterns on the bamboo pole and putting them on a high point, such as roofs, trees, terraces, etc. It is a custom in Guangzhou, Hong Kong, etc.
- Collecting [dandelion](#) leaves and distributing them evenly among family members
- Fire [Dragon Dances](#)

### ***Here are some stories about the moon taken from the Net***

#### **The Stories of the Chinese Mid Autumn Festival**

##### **The Lady in the Moon**

The Moon festival (also called the Mooncake or Mid-Autumn festival) falls on September 22nd in the year 2010. What is the Moon festival? Every year on the fifteenth day of the eighth month of the lunar calendar, when the moon is at its maximum brightness for the entire year, the Chinese celebrate "zhong qiu jie." Children are told the story of the moon fairy living in a crystal palace, who comes out to dance on the moon's shadowed surface. The legend surrounding the "lady living in the moon" dates back to ancient times, to a day when ten suns appeared at once in the sky. The Emperor ordered a famous archer to shoot down the nine extra suns. Once the task was accomplished, Goddess of Western Heaven rewarded the archer with a pill that would make him

immortal. However, his wife found the pill, took it, and was banished to the moon as a result. Legend says that her beauty is greatest on the day of the Moon festival.

### **III. The Hare - Jade Rabbit**



In this legend, three fairy sages transformed themselves into pitiful old men and begged for something to eat from a fox, a monkey and a rabbit. The fox and the monkey both had food to give to the old men, but the rabbit, empty-handed, offered his own flesh instead, jumping into a blazing fire to cook himself. The sages were so touched by the rabbit's sacrifice that they let him live in the Moon Palace where he became the "Jade Rabbit."

#### **Other Moon Festival Legends**

According to another legend, on this day the "Man in the Moon" was spotted at an inn, carrying a writing tablet. When questioned, he said he was recording the names of all the happy couples who were fated to marry and live happily forever after. Accordingly, just as June is the traditional month for exchanging nuptials in the west, many Chinese weddings are held during the eighth lunar month, with the fifteenth day being the most popular.

Of course, the most famous legend surrounding the Moon festival concerns its possible role in Chinese history. Overrun by the Mongols in the thirteenth century, the Chinese threw off their oppressors in 1368 AD. It is said that mooncakes - which the Mongols did not eat - were the perfect vehicle for hiding and passing along plans for the rebellion. Families were instructed not to eat the mooncakes until the day of the moon festival, which is when the rebellion took place. (In another version plans were passed along in mooncakes over several years of Mid-Autumn festivals, but the basic idea is the same).

### ***Bamboo and Tissue paper Lanterns***

***Here is what to do***

***Materials:***

***3x 1 metres cane***

***MaskingTape***

***Tissue paper***

***PVA glue slightly watered down***

***1 tea candle***

***Method;***

***Making the Frame***

***Overlap the three pieces of cane in the centre, making triangular holder at the bottom to hold the tea light.***

***Tape into place.***

***Bend and join end pieces to form a triangle at the top of the lantern.***

***Tape into place. Make sure that all shape ends have been covered over with tape as they might pierce the tissue later.***

***Cut tissue to size and glue into place using PVA, wrap tissue around cane where possible or overlap.***

***I think it will be a good idea to paint over all the tissue with a PVA slurry, just to strengthen the tissue. When you are doing this, tissue paper cut outs can be added for decoration. Again use plenty of PVA to glue the pattern down, but be careful not to tear the paper.***

***Use wire to make a handle and keep candle in place by using some masking tape.***

***We might try and have a lantern procession on the night of the planetarium.***

## ***Warriors and Dragons of the Sky- Kites.***

***The aim of this project is to study how kites were used in war in Asia and look at some of the designs that might be used to intimidate the enemy.***

***Here are some photos of Japanese Kites (Press Control, Click)***

***[ROKKAKU\(SANJO\)](#)***

***[TSUGARU](#)***

***[AIZU-TOJIN](#)***

***[EDO KAKU](#)***

***[HITODAKO](#)***

***[KINTOKI](#)***

***[NOSHIRO DAKO](#)***

***[OHGI](#)***

***[ONNABERABO & OTOKOBERABO](#)***

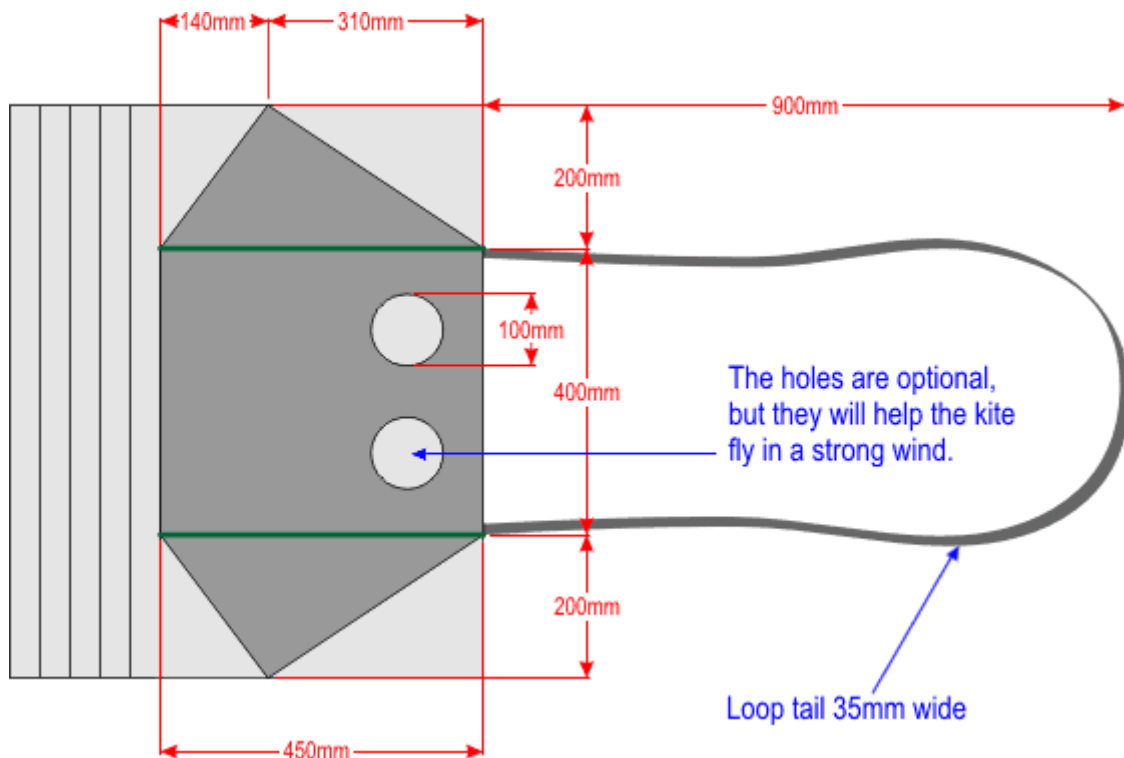
***Look at kite books and study how to:***

## Make Your Own Kite

*made flies for the first time. Making kites is easy. Well, it can be if you pick the right type of kite. For the beginner, a sled kite made out of an old bin-bag (OK, a new one will smell less) and a couple of sticks is the place to start.*

### *You Will Need*

- *White Tyvek 800mm x 450mm (2'8" x 1'6").*
- *2 sticks (split bamboo garden stakes are ideal) 450mm (1'6") long.*
- *Kite string*
- *Black Book Binding Tape*



### *Method*

- *Cut the Tyvek to the shape in the diagram.*
- *Cutting two holes towards the rear edge of the kite will help it fly in stronger winds.*
- *Once you have cut the design. Work as a team to draw your design onto the Tyvek.*
- *Paint your design using Cromocryl Acrylic( NOT TEMPERA)*
- *use blacktape to attach the two sticks to it.*

- *Reinforce both wing tips with Black tape*
- *For the tail, make a loop of polythene about 1.8m long and 35mm wide, and stick each end to the kite.*
- *The kite will fly without a tail, but will fly better with one.*
- *To attach the bridle, make a hole at each 'wing-tip' and tie a piece of thin string about 2400mm long to each hole. At the middle of the bridle tie a small loop in the string to attach the line. Tie on the line, which for a kite of this size only needs to be slightly thicker than button thread, and you are ready to go.*

*To launch the kite you will need two people. Let out about 15m (50') of line and with the second person holding the kite spread, let the wind take it up. With practice you should be able to launch it with only one person.*

## ***Drawing Dragons***